

## **Course Descriptor**

Social Studies

September 2013

### **Level of Instruction**

Intermediate Grade 8

### **Curriculum Overview:**

At the Intermediate Level, the Social Studies Program uses an interdisciplinary approach and specific topics are organized thematically and chronologically when appropriate. Specific topics deal with real-life issues and respond to the students' need for relevance. It requires young adolescents to examine their value systems in light of the expectations of their society, and deals specifically with rights and responsibilities with respect to the individual, community and the natural environment. It includes the use of case studies, role models, current events, technology and hands on activities designed to meet diverse students' needs, interests and abilities.

The organizing concept for the Grade 8 curriculum is "history as a story of the past in the present". The curriculum examines various themes related to the history of Newfoundland and Labrador – history as a lens to the past, history as a story of people, history as a story of events, and history as a story of change. The course introduces students to the study of the history of the province from the turn of the 19th century to the present. It traces the province's political evolution and development, colony-to-country to- province, and asks students to: explore and appreciate history as part of their community, region and province; examine social change; and assess the impact of the past on the present.

### **Authorized Learning Resources**

Foundation for the Atlantic Canada Social Studies Curriculum (1998)  
Newfoundland and Labrador History: A Curriculum Guide (2005, Interim Edition)  
*Voyage to Discovery: History of Newfoundland and Labrador 1800-Present* (2005, with teacher's resource)  
*The Log of Bob Bartlett* (2006)

### **Themes:**

- Unit 1: Introduction: History as a Lens to the Past
- Unit 2: Newfoundland and Labrador from the Turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century through the Early 20th Century: History as a Story of People
- Unit 3: Newfoundland and Labrador from 1914 through 1949: History as a Story of Significant Events

Unit 4: Newfoundland and Labrador through the 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century: History as a Story of Change

Unit 5: History as a Story of the Past in the Present

### **Assessment:**

Assessment in this course is governed by the Assessment and Evaluation Policy of the former Eastern School District.

[http://www.esdnl.ca/about/policies/esd/I\\_IL.pdf](http://www.esdnl.ca/about/policies/esd/I_IL.pdf).

<http://www.esdnl.ca/aboutesd/policies/regulations.jsp?cat=I&code=IL>

### **Assessment and Evaluation Plan for Social Studies Grades 7:**

Performance Assessment	60%
Tests/Quizzes:	40%

### **Note:**

1. All evidence of learning shall be considered when determining a student's final grade. Averaging shall not be used as a sole indicator of a student's level of attainment of the course outcomes.
2. Homework and student behaviour (except where specified in Provincial documents) shall not be given a value for assessment.
3. To ensure student achievement of the outcomes, teachers are expected to use a variety of assessments from the following internal data sources:

- Formal and informal observations (anecdotal records, checklists, etc.)
- Written Responses (learning logs, journals, blogs, etc.)
- Projects (Long and short term)
- Research (brochures, flyers, posters, essays, graphic organizers, etc.)
- Student presentations (seminars, speeches, debates, discussions, etc.)
- Self assessments (exit and entrance cards, learning inventories, yes/no activities, learning contracts, etc.)
- Peer assessments
- Conferencing (questioning, ongoing records, checklists, etc.)
- Digital Evidence (web page, blog, PowerPoint, Prezi, interactive white board)
- Portfolios
- Individual and group participation (demonstrations, interviews, questioning, role play, drama)
- Work samples (investigations, learning logs, journals, blogs, etc.)
- Tests and quizzes

**Resource Links:**

**Grade 8 Curriculum Guide**

<http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/k12/curriculum/guides/socialstudies/index.html#gr8>

**Foundation Document**

<http://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/k12/curriculum/documents/socialstudies/social.pdf>

**Provincial Historic Commemorations Program**

<http://www.seethesites.ca/commemorations-program.aspx>